Amendment to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (canceled)

Claim 2 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein the particulate material is a smokable material.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein said at least one wall forms part of an endless flexible element.

Claim 4 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said endless flexible element is a toothed belt.

Claim 5 (original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said toothed belt has alternating teeth and tooth spaces, said tooth spaces constituting said recesses.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a second pulley having a toothless peripheral surface, said belt being trained over said second pulley.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein at least two of said walls are movable lengthwise relative to the channel.

Claim 10 (original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein only one of said at least two walls has a recessed stream-contacting surface.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein said channel further comprises a film of current-conducting material coating said stream-contacting surface.

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein said at least one wall consists at least in part of a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethane elastomers, polyethylene, polypropylene and polyester elastomers.

Claim 15 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein said stream is convertible into rod-like fillers of smokers' products each having a predetermined length and said material-receiving recesses are spaced apart from each other lengthwise of said at least one wall by a whole multiple of said predetermined length.

Claim 16 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein said walls include a first wall bounding said path from above, a second wall adjacent one side of said path and a third wall adjacent another side of said path, said surface being provided on at least one of said second and third walls.

Claim 17 (original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said first wall is foraminous.

Claim 18 (original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a housing for said channel, said housing having portions supporting said second and third walls from below.

Claim 19 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein said recesses are equidistant from each other as seen in the direction of lengthwise movement of said at least one wall.

Claim 20 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, further comprising means for showering particulate material into a predetermined portion of said path.

Claim 21 (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26 ~~22~~, wherein the channel has a length orientation and a narrower width orientation, and the at least one wall is movable lengthwise along the length of the channel.

Claim 22 (canceled):

Claim 23 (previously presented) Apparatus for transporting a stream of particulate material, comprising:

a channel having elongated walls defining a stream-receiving and guiding path, at least one of said walls being movable lengthwise and having a stream-contacting surface provided with material-receiving recesses; and

means for moving said at least one wall,

wherein said at least one wall forms part of an endless flexible element, said endless flexible element being a toothed belt, and

wherein said means for moving includes a pulley rotatable about a predetermined axis and including a cage having bars parallel with said axis and mating with the teeth of said belt.

Claim 24 (previously presented) Apparatus for transporting a stream of particulate material, comprising:

a channel having elongated walls defining a stream-receiving and guiding path, at least one of said walls being movable lengthwise and having a stream-contacting surface provided with material-receiving recesses; and

means for moving said at least one wall,

wherein at least two of said walls are movable lengthwise relative to the channel, each of said at least two walls having a recessed stream-contacting surface.

Claim 25 (previously presented) Apparatus for transporting a stream of particulate material, comprising:

a channel having elongated walls defining a stream-receiving and guiding path, at least one of said walls being movable lengthwise and having a stream-contacting surface provided with material-receiving recesses; and

means for moving said at least one wall,

wherein said path has a width which decreases in the direction of lengthwise movement of said at least one wall.

Claim 26 (new) Apparatus for transporting a stream of particulate material, comprising:

a channel having elongated walls defining a stream-receiving and guiding path, at least one of said walls being movable lengthwise and having a stream-contacting surface provided with material-receiving recesses;

means for moving said at least one wall, said means for moving including a rotary pulley and a digital servo drive for said pulley; and

a second pulley having a toothless peripheral surface, said belt being trained over said second pulley.